

FARM NUMBERS HIGHLIGHTS

The number of farms in Kentucky in 1998 totaled 90,000. This number was down 1,000 farms from 1997. A farm is defined as any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year. Government payments are included in sales. Institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with their entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, set aside, or other government programs are considered operating farms.

Kentucky ranks fifth nationally in number of farms. Ranking ahead of Kentucky in farm numbers were Texas with 226,000, Missouri with 110,000, Iowa with 97,000 and Tennessee with 91,000. Of Kentucky's 90,000 farms, 51,000 had sales of \$1,000-\$9,999 and 39,000 had sales of \$10,000 or more.

Land in farms was estimated at 13.9 million acres, unchanged from the 1997 estimate. Farmland in Kentucky

accounted for 55 percent of the approximate 25.4 million total acres in the State. The average size of a farm in Kentucky for 1998 was 154 acres, up slightly from 1997's 153 acres.

The number of farms in the United States in 1998 was estimated at 2.19 million, up fractionally from 1997. Total land in farms, at 953.8 million acres, was down 2.25 million acres from 1997. The decline in land in farms continues to follow historical trends. The average farm size decreased 1 acre from 1997 to 435 acres.

The U.S. number of farms in the economic sales class between \$1,000 and \$9,999 increased 1,150 farms during 1998 to 1,192,200. Those with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 class decreased 3,760 farms from 1997 to 642,200 in 1998. The \$100,000 and over sales class increased 3,610 farms from 1997 to 357,110 farms in 1998. These changes in the sales class mix of farms continues the trend of losing farms in the \$10,000-\$99,999 sales class, while gaining farms in both the \$1,000-\$9,999 and the \$100,000 and over sales classes.

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS KENTUCKY AND U.S., 1950 - 1998

YEAR	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
	FARMS	LAND IN FARMS		FARMS	LAND IN FARMS	
		AVERAGE	TOTAL		AVERAGE	TOTAL
	(000)	(Acres)	(000 Acres)	(000)	(Acres)	(000 Acres)
1950	230	86	19,780	5,648	213	1,202,019
1955	187	101	18,887	4,654	258	1,201,900
1960	161	112	18,032	3,963	297	1,175,646
1965	142	123	17,500	3,356	340	1,139,597
1970	127	128	16,300	2,949	374	1,102,371
1975 ^{1/}	107	138	14,800	2,521	420	1,059,420
1980	102	143	14,600	2,440	426	1,038,885
1981	103	142	14,600	2,440	424	1,034,190
1982	103	141	14,500	2,407	427	1,027,795
1983	103	141	14,500	2,379	430	1,023,425
1984	101	144	14,500	2,334	436	1,017,803
1985	100	145	14,500	2,293	441	1,012,073
1986	99	146	14,500	2,250	447	1,005,333
1987	99	145	14,400	2,213	451	998,923
1988	97	147	14,300	2,201	452	994,423
1989	95	149	14,200	2,175	456	990,723
1990	93	152	14,100	2,146	460	986,850
1991	91	155	14,100	2,117	464	981,736
1992	91	155	14,100	2,108	464	978,503
1993 ^{2/ 3/}	95	148	14,100	2,202	440	968,845
1994 ^{3/}	94	150	14,100	2,198	440	965,935
1995 ^{3/ 4/}	93	151	14,000	2,196	438	962,515
1996 ^{3/}	92	152	14,000	2,191	438	958,675
1997 ^{3/}	91	153	13,900	2,191	436	956,010
1998	90	154	13,900	2,192	435	953,765

^{1/}New definition of farm, initiated in 1975; a farm is a place as of June 1 that sells or could sell \$1,000 of agricultural products during the year. ^{2/}Reference period changed from June 1 to all operations qualifying as a farm during the year to resolve a definitional difference between the Census of Agriculture and USDA's annual farm count. ^{3/}Revised. ^{4/}Farm definition changed in 1995 to include farms with 5 horses or more even if they don't qualify under the \$1,000 or more of sales rule; boarding stables and race tracks are excluded.

NUMBER OF FARMS BY CLASS GROSS VALUE OF SALES, U.S. & SELECTED STATES

STATE	1996 <u>1/</u>		1997 <u>1/</u>		1998 <u>2/</u>	
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+
KENTUCKY	52,000	40,000	53,000	38,000	51,000	39,000
Tennessee	68,000	23,000	69,000	22,000	69,000	22,000
Indiana	30,000	36,000	31,500	34,500	31,000	35,000
Ohio	39,000	39,000	40,600	38,400	41,500	38,500
Illinois	27,000	52,000	27,700	51,300	27,700	51,300
Missouri	61,500	48,500	62,700	47,300	62,700	47,300
Texas	151,000	73,000	154,000	71,000	153,000	73,000
Iowa	27,000	72,000	27,500	70,500	26,500	70,500
Virginia	32,000	17,000	32,000	17,000	32,000	17,000
United States	1,167,800	1,022,700	1,191,050	999,460	1,192,200	999,310

1/Revised. 2/Preliminary.

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK FARMS KENTUCKY, 1978 - 1998

YEAR	OPERATIONS WITH CATTLE	OPERATIONS WITH BEEF COWS <u>1/</u>	OPERATIONS WITH MILK COWS <u>1/</u>	OPERATIONS WITH HOGS	OPERATIONS WITH SHEEP
1978	72,000	NA	14,000	31,000	600
1979	66,000	NA	13,000	31,000	600
1980	65,000	NA	11,000	29,000	700
1981	64,000	NA	10,000	25,000	800
1982	64,000	NA	9,500	20,000	800
1983	66,000	NA	9,500	21,000	900
1984	65,000	NA	9,000	20,000	900
1985	62,000	NA	8,500	15,000	900
1986	61,000	47,000	7,500	13,000	1,000
1987	60,000	47,000	7,200	10,000	1,100
1988	59,000	47,000	7,100	10,000	1,200
1989	59,000	47,000	7,000	9,000	1,200
1990	57,000	46,000	6,500	6,500	1,100
1991	55,000	45,000	5,500	6,000	1,100
1992	53,000	44,000	5,000	6,000	1,000
1993	53,000	44,000	4,600	5,800	1,000
1994	53,000	44,000	4,300	4,500	1,000
1995	54,000	45,000	4,000	3,800	900
1996 <u>2/</u>	54,000	45,000	3,800	2,500	850
1997 <u>2/</u>	52,000	44,000	3,600	2,100	800
1998 <u>3/</u>	50,000	42,000	3,400	1,700	800

1/Also included with cattle farms. 2/Revised. 3/Preliminary. NA - Not Available.